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DR. KREML SENTENCED FOR SPYING FOR U.S.

Prague PRACE 18 October 1964--A

(Unsigned report: "Ten Years Imprisonment for Espionage")

(Text) On the morning of 17 October, the Ostrava court concluded the trial of Dr. Jaroslav Kreml, former anesthetist of the National Health Institute attached to the Vitkovice ironworks, accused of the punishable offense of illegal departure from the republic, espionage, and harming the republic's interests abroad.

As a participant of a trip to the United States organized by the J.E. Purkyne Medical Society, Dr. Jaroslav Kreml decided not to return to his fatherland but to stay in the United States for good. In connection with his decision, he entered into contact with treacherous emigres and he put certain information important to the republic's defense at the disposal of employees of the CIA. After the disclosure of secret data, however, he changed his mind and asked the Czechoslovak mission at the United Nations in New York for help; he returned back home, to his fatherland.

After he came home he was investigated in connection with his activity in the United States. However, on 10 July 1964, he once again attempted to leave the republic in an adventurous manner at the Mikulov border crossing. Inconspicuously he adapted his car so that after quickly removing the upper part of the car's body he could run the car under the frontier bars and disappear over the border. However, his attempt to flee was not successful and he was apprehended on the spot.

On the morning of 1 October 1964, the Ostrava regional court announced its verdict. Dr. Jaroslav Kreml was sentenced to 10 years in prison and to the loss of his honorable civic rights.

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